

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

19 February 1946

SUBJECT: Letter Instructions

TO : Major-General Basilio J. Valdes, PA

1. By virtue of the powers vested in me as President of the Philippines and Commander in Chief of the Philippine Army, you are hereby directed to proceed as soon as possible to the United States to carry out the instructions hereunder given:

- (a) Upon arrival in the United States you will present this letter of instruction to appropriate agencies of the United States Government concerned with your mission;
- (b) You will acquaint the proper officials or governmental agencies directly concerned with your representations of the actual pitiful plight of the widows and orphans of the Philippine Army Officers and enlisted men who were killed in action or died of disease while in Bataan and Corregidor, of the Philippine Army personnel who died during the death march or during their confinement in Japanese Concentration Camps or those subsequently killed by Japanese Military authorities because of their underground activities or while assisting American troops in liberating occupied areas from the Japanese Forces.
- (c) You will take up with the proper authorities matters related to the arrears in pay of the officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Army and all other benefits they are entitled to under existing laws such as the G-I Bill of Rights;
- (d) You will make appropriate representations in Washington to secure a wider and more expeditious recognition of guerilla units who have been active in the resistance movement in the Philippines and as yet are unrecognized;
- (e) You will bring to the attention of the War Department and the Chiefs of Staff of the United States Army the problems related with the equipment of the Philippine Army with a view to securing the free transfer of equipment which the Philippine Army would not otherwise be able to purchase due to lack of funds;
- (f) To help this mission, Brigadier-General Macario Peralta, Jr. is hereby designated to accompany you to the United States and his activities shall be confined purely to rendering you such assistance as you may require for the compliance of these instructions and will not be taken to mean that he may act independently;

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- (g) You are hereby authorized to take with you two officers from the active list, besides General Peralta, who will act as your assistants during the pendency of this mission, appropriate orders for this detail to be issued by the Chief of Staff upon your written request;
- (h) You will render reports to me through the Secretary of National Defense as conditions warrant and will return to the Philippines upon completion of mission or when in your judgment further continuance of your stay in the United States will no longer further your mission.

S. Osmeña
SERGIO OSMEÑA
President of the Philippines

Official:

Alfredo Montelibano
ALFREDO MONTELIBANO
Secretary of National Defense

Copy furnished:

The Secretary of National Defense
The Commanding General, AFWESPAC
The Chief of Staff, Philippine Army